

TO THE
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Stowmarket Urban District Council.

26TH JANUARY, 1911.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you the ANNUAL REPORT on the health of Stowmarket, for the year ending 31st December, 1910.

VITAL STATISTICS.

I have based the following Statistics on the population at the last census viz., 4162.

Birth Rate,
18·2 per 1000 During the year there were 76 Births (boys 38, girls 38), which gives a Birth Rate of 18·2 per 1000, as compared with 23·7 per 1000 last year, and an average of 23·1 for the previous ten years (see Table I). One of these Births only was illegitimate, as compared with seven last year. The Birth Rate for East Stow was 23·5 per 1000.

Death Rate,
12·9 per 1000 The number of Deaths registered during the year was 45 (males 15, females 30), compared with 46 last year. Five of the paupers dying in the Workhouse during the year belonged to Stowmarket. One patient dying at the Asylum, and three dying at Ipswich Hospital also belonged to the town, making a total of 54, with a death rate of 12·9, the same as last year; the average for the previous 10 years being 14·5 (see Table I). The Death Rate for East Stow was 11· per 1000.

Infant
Mortality,
92·1 per 1000 There were 7 Deaths registered of Infants under one year of age, equal to an Infant Mortality of 92·1 per 1000 Births, compared with 70·7 last year, and an average of 116·6 for the previous 10 years (see Table V.) This rate for East Stow District was 58 per 1000 Births.
Births

Zymotic
Death Rate,
Nil. The Zymotic Death Rate was nil, compared with 0·2 last year.

Other Deaths Amongst other deaths will be noted (see Table IV.)—three due to Phthisis, compared with 10 last year; 6 due to cancer compared with 4 last year; 9 due to diseases of respiratory organs, compared with 8 last year; 7 due to heart disease, compared with four last year. Thirty-two of the deaths were of persons over 65.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 20 notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year, compared with 18 last year.

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|----|------------------------------|
| Diphtheria | ... | 5 | (compared with 5 last year). |
| Erysipelas | ... | 2 | (compared with 4 last year). |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | 13 | (compared with 1 last year). |

Diphtheria Case I.—Defective drainage, insufficient closet accommodation. Usual notice was served and defect remedied.

Case II.—Defective w.c., ventilation insufficient.

Case III.—House damp, ventilation defective. Usual notice served and defects remedied.

Case IV.—Drains blocked. Defect remedied.

Case V.—No defect noted.

Erysipelas. Two cases. One was associated with defective drainage. In the other case no defect was discovered.

Scarlet Fever. Case I.—House overcrowded. Bedroom damp. Notice served, defects remedied.
Case II.—House badly ventilated and drainage defective.
Case III.—Drainage defective. Remedied.
Case IV.—w.c. defective. Notice served. Defect remedied.
In other instances no defects were discovered.

Hospital One or two slight defects noted and remedied. Now in readiness and in good repair. There is no disinfecting chamber.

Phthisis There were two pauper cases notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Act, 1908.

GENERAL SANITARY REPORT.

Bake-houses (10) The Bake-houses were inspected quarterly with occasional surprise visits. They were found to be in a satisfactory sanitary condition, no defects being reported.

Slaughter-houses (7) In every instance it has been customary to put offal into manure bins, causing a smell. In order to abate this nuisance, notice was served that all offal should be collected in proper sanitary tins. In one instance there was no proper manure bin, and the general sanitary arrangements were defective. Notice was served and the repairs effected.

Cow Sheds and Dairies (4) Were inspected several times during the year. In one instance, there was no troughing to cow shed, walls and floor defective, no proper drainage, and approaches to the cow shed were in a deplorable state. Notice was served on the owner to remedy the defects.

Common Lodging Houses (2) Were inspected during the year. In one instance there was a defective roof, bedroom floor out of repair, defective sink. They are kept in a clean state. At times they are overcrowded.

Factory Act (62) The Workshops and Factories were inspected twice during the year, 146 inspections were made. There are 62 workshops on the list, compared with 71 last year. Two defects were noted and remedied.

Refuse Disposal Many complaints are still received as to the nuisance caused by the receptacles containing the house refuse not being, in the great majority of instances, covered. Only about 70 out of 500 comply with this regulation. Boxes, pails and baths still used. The refuse is removed twice a week and carted to the Council's meadow. Altogether 1200 loads were disposed of.
42 loads of night soil were removed.
Many cesspools, containing sink waste only, were emptied, in all amounting to 34 loads.

Sewerage The Sewerage of the Town gravitates to the Pumping Station, from there it is pumped up to the Sewage Farm, through a rising main into filtering tanks. The sludge is separated, and the effluent flows on to the land, then through osier beds into the river Gipping. The Farm, of about 30 acres, is worked under a Joint Committee of the Stowmarket and East Stow Councils.

During the year 20 houses have been connected up with the sewer, making a total since 1903 of 424.

Twenty-one defective Privy Vaults have been done away with.

The Butt Pipe Sewer at the back of Bury Street, which was defective, has been re-constructed, and 14 houses connected with it.

There now remain to be re-constructed the Sewers in the following streets, all being defective :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|------------|------------------------|
| Tavern Street | ... | ... | Butt Pipes | } under consideration. |
| Violet Hill | ... | ... | " | |
| Violet Hill Road | ... | ... | " | |
| Union Street | ... | ... | " | |
| Church Lane (part) | ... | ... | " | |
| Ipswich Street | ... | ... | " | |

Main Intercepting Sewer cleaned out for $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile. There are two detritus chambers.

House to House Inspection and Nuisances The drainage from one Sale Yard was found to be running into the river Gipping. The drains were re-constructed and connected with main sewer.

Bond Street, 11 Houses.—Defective butt pipe drains re-constructed, and replaced by glazed socket pipes. Privy Vaults made into Water Closets. In 13 other houses, some defects were noted in the drainage, and they were all re-constructed.

Taker's Lane.—Two Houses drained into dead well or tubs. Drains defective, traps connected with the sink were defective, rendering sinks unfit for use. Four houses drain into one well. Dead well, in one case, 4ft. from lane, and 5yds. from front doors. This well holds 1,700 gallons. Owner willing to connect if Council will construct a sewer. The Council have given an order for this sewer to be constructed.

Station Road.—Two defective Privy Vaults condemned and Water Closets constructed. One house defective drainage, dilapidated Privy Vault. Notice served and repairs effected.

Regent Street.—In 2 Houses, Closet accommodation not sufficient. Notice served to construct two Water Closets. Ten Houses, roof defective, floors defective, windows defective, ventilation defective. Notice served and repairs effected. New Bedrooms constructed to each house, Water Closets erected and water supply laid on.

Milton Road.—One House, drains defective. Remedied.

Violet Hill.—Ten Houses, defective drains. Repaired.

Water Supply Eleven houses have been connected with the town supply during the year. Three new cottages erected and have the town supply laid on. The 4 cottages in Union Street, mentioned in last report, now have the town water supply. The 5 cottages in Regent Street, mentioned in previous reports, still have a polluted well supply, and defective Privy Vaults.

House Accommodation There have been three new cottages built during the year. The cottage accommodation in the town is still insufficient.

Unsound Meat No action has been taken by the Council under this Act.
P.H. Act, 1875

Food & Drugs Act No action taken under this Act

Plague Amongst Rats Owing to the outbreak of plague at Freston in the County, and the discovery of plague-infected rats in that district and in the districts of Felixstowe and Woodbridge, active measures have been taken to destroy these animals. The Council has appointed a professional rat catcher, and he has destroyed 318 rats on the Council's property. Farmers and owners of property generally, in the urban area, have taken active measures, and in most cases have paid 1d. and 2d. per rat destroyed. Virus and rat poison have been used. The measures adopted have been discussed with officials from the Local Government Board, and their recommendations carried out. Five rats have been sent to the Local Government Board for bacteriological examination, with negative results. An exhaustive test is now being tried, 180 rats being sent up for examination in batches of 30, at intervals extending over one month. The result of this test is not yet known. It is estimated that at least, 1500 rats have been killed in the urban area already.

GENERAL REMARKS.

On referring to Table I., it will be noticed that the Birth Rate is considerably below that of last year, and below the average for the previous ten years. The Death Rate, the same as last year, still keeps below the average of the previous ten years. A large proportion (32 out of 54), were of persons over 65.

The Infectious Diseases were not numerous, and the Zymotic Death Rate was nil.

The Infant Mortality, per 1000 Births, was rather higher than last year, but was below the average for the previous ten years.

Table I. shows the estimated Population and Birth and Death Rates for the last ten years.

Table II. refers to the Factory Act.

Table III. shows the cases of Infectious Diseases notified, and particulars as to the age of persons affected.

Table IV. shows causes of, and ages at, Death during the year.

Table V. refers to Infant Mortality during the year.

In conclusion, I have to acknowledge the great help I have received from the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor in collecting information for this report.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. HILLIER, M.D.,

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1910 and previous Years.

| Year. | Popul'tion estimated to Middle of each Year. | Births. | | Total Deaths registered in the District. | | | | Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District. | Deaths of Non-residents registered in the District. | Deaths of Residents registered beyond the District. | Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District. | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|--------|--|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|--|---|---|--|--------|
| | | No. | Rate.* | Under 1 year of age. | | At all ages. | | | | | No. | Rate.* |
| | | | | No. | Rate per 1000 Births registd. | No. | Rate.* | | | | | |
| 1900 | 4185 | 104 | 24·8 | 16 | 153 | 70 | 16·7 | | | 1 | 71 | 16·9 |
| 1901 | 4162 | 114 | 27·3 | 20 | 178 | 66 | 15·8 | | | 3 | 69 | 16·4 |
| 1902 | 4162 | 92 | 24·5 | 9 | 97·8 | 51 | 12·2 | | | 3 | 54 | 12·9 |
| 1903 | 4162 | 72 | 17·2 | 7 | 97·2 | 52 | 12·4 | | | 6 | 58 | 13·9 |
| 1904 | 4162 | 89 | 21·2 | 11 | 123 | 56 | 13·4 | | | 4 | 60 | 14·4 |
| 1905 | 4162 | 93 | 22·3 | 10 | 107 | 48 | 11·5 | | | 1 | 49 | 11·7 |
| 1906 | 4162 | 107 | 25·7 | 14 | 120 | 57 | 13·6 | | | 6 | 63 | 15·1 |
| 1907 | 4162 | 86 | 20·6 | 12 | 139 | 57 | 13·6 | | | 5 | 62 | 14·9 |
| 1908 | 4162 | 99 | 23·7 | 8 | 80·8 | 54 | 12·9 | | | 14 | 68 | 16·2 |
| 1909 | 4162 | 99 | 23·7 | 7 | 70·7 | 46 | 11·0 | | | 8 | 54 | 12·9 |
| Averages for years 1900-1909. | | | 23·1 | | 116·6 | | 13·3 | | | | | 14·5 |
| 1910 | 4162 | 76 | 18·2 | 7 | 92·1 | 45 | 10·8 | | | 9 | 54 | 12·9 |

Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) ... 990

Total population at all ages ... 4162

Number of Inhabited houses ... 962 Average number of persons per house ... 4·4

TABLE II.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|----|
| Total Number of Workshops on Register | | | | | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| 1.—INSPECTION. | | | | | | | | | |
| Premises. | | | | Inspections. | | Number of Written Notices. | | Prosecutions. | |
| Factories (including Factory Laundries) | | | | 22 | | ... | | 0 | |
| Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) | | | | 124 | | ... | | 0 | |
| Total | | | | ... | | 146 | | 1 | |
| 2.—DEFECTS FOUND. | | | | | | | | | |
| Particulars. | | | | | | Number of Defects. Found. | | Remedied. | |
| Want of Ventilation | | | | ... | | ... | | 1 | |
| Total | | | | ... | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 3.—HOME WORK. | | | | | | | | | |
| OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107. | | | | | | | | | |
| NATURE OF WORK. | | Lists received from Employers. | | | Address of Outworker. | Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists. | Prosecution. | | |
| | | Sending twice in the year. | | | | | | | |
| | | Lists. | Con- tractors. | Workmen. | Received from other Council. | | | | |
| Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. | | ... | 2 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| | | | 2 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT. | | | | | | | No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality. |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------------|--|
| | At all Ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | |
| | | Under 1 | 1 to 5 | 5 to 15 | 15 to 25 | 25 to 65 | 65 and upwards | |
| Diphtheria ... | 5 | | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Erysipelas ... | 2 | | | | | | 2 | |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 13 | | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | | |
| Totals ... | 20 | | 3 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 2 | |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----|---|
| Isolation Hospital, Stowmarket. | Total available beds | ... | 8 |
| Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated | | ... | 1 |

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1910.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | All Ages. | Under 1 | 1 and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 65 | 65 and up-wards |
| Small-pox | | | | | | | |
| Measles | | | | | | | |
| Scarlet Fever | | | | | | | |
| Whooping Cough | | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria (including Mem- branous croup) | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhœa | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Gastritis | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) | 3 | | | | 2 | 1 | |
| Other tuberculous disease ... | | | | | | | |
| Cancer, malignant disease ... | 6 | | | | | 2 | 4 |
| Bronchitis | 6 | 2 | | | | 1 | 3 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Pleurisy | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases of Respiratory Organs | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver ... | | | | | | | |
| Premature Birth | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Diseases and Accidents of parturition | | | | | | | |
| Heart diseases | 7 | | | | | | 7 |
| Accidents | 1 | | | | 1 | | |
| Suicides | 3 | | | | | 3 | |
| All other causes | 22 | 3 | | | | 3 | 16 |
| All causes | 54 | 8 | | | 3 | 11 | 32 |

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

| CAUSE OF DEATH. | Under 1 week. | 1-2 Weeks. | 2-3 Weeks. | 3-4 Weeks. | Total under 1 Month. | 1-2 Months. | 2-3 Months. | 3-4 Months. | 4-5 Months. | 5-6 Months. | 6-7 Months. | 7-8 Months. | 8-9 Months. | 9-10 Months. | 10-11 Months. | 11-12 Months. | Total Deaths under One Year. |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| All Causes :—Certified | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wasting Diseases :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Premature Birth ... | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 3 |
| Other Causes :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bronchitis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Pneumonia | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Other Causes | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| | 2 | | | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | 7 |

Births in the year

{

legitimate ... 75

illegitimate ... 1

}

Deaths in the year of

{

legitimate infants ... 7

illegitimate infants ... 0

}

Population

... .. 4162

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages

... .. 51

STOWMARKET

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

1910.